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**April 29, 1999** 

99-07 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## California Highway Patrol and BMW Join Fight to Eradicate Polio

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Who: Spike Helmick, Commissioner, California Highway Patrol (CHP) and honorary chair,
Trans/Canada Ride for PolioPlus
A&S BMW of Roseville and BMW North America
"Motorcycle" Bob Mutchler

What: Presentation of a donated 1999 1100 RT BMW Motorcycle for the Trans/Canada ride.

**Where**: CHP headquarters, 2555 First Avenue (located off of 24<sup>th</sup> - south of Broadway)

When: Thursday, April 29<sup>th</sup> - 11 a.m.

**Why**: The CHP recognizes and supports the Rotary's ongoing efforts to eradicate Polio by the year 2000. The World Health Organization estimates that in 1996 as many as 40,000 people were affected by this crippling disease world wide.

Since 1985, Rotary International has raised over \$400 million for vaccines and supplies and 1.5 billion children have been vaccinated against Polio.

**Details**: Bob Mutchler, 51, was diagnosed with Polio at age nine months and spent three years of his life in an iron lung. He now walks with the aid of arm and leg braces.

In 1998, Mutchler set two world's records with his transcontinental ride visiting all 48 contiguous U. S. state capitals, in 27 days, traveling nearly 16,000 miles. Mutchler continues the PolioPlus campaign this year with a Trans/Canada ride, visiting all major Canadian provinces. Mutchler departs, from Sacramento on June 26<sup>th</sup>, traveling to Victoria, British Columbia, Canada and arriving in St. Johns, Newfoundland on July 17, 1999.

Mutchler hopes to raise \$2 million with the Trans/Canada ride.

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**Media Note**: The photo opportunity for this event includes the donated BMW flanked by two CHP Motor officers as well as the presentation of the motorcycle by BMW with Commissioner Helmick to Mutchler at 11 a.m.